



1991

IOWA
NUMISMATIC
ASSOCIATION

Published by the Iowa Numismatic Association

*** STATE WIDE CLUB MEETING NIGHTS ***

- AMES- Last Wednesday, Senior Citizen Center, 7:30 PM.
- BURLINGTON- Last Tuesday, Buescher Hall, 611 Columbia St. 7:30 PM.
- CEDAR FALLS- Last Thursday, Cedar Falls Utility Bldg., 7:30 PM.
- CEDAR RAPIDS- Third Wednesday, People's Bank & Trust, 101 3rd Ave.S.W.
- CENTRAL IOWA, MARSHALLTOWN- 3rd Wed., Fisher Community Center, 7:30 PM.
- CLARION COIN CLUB- 3rd Wed., I.P.S. Community Meeting Room. 7:30PM
- DAVENPORT- 1st Tuesday, Davenport Public Library, 4th & Main, 7:00 PM.
- DECORAH AREA COIN CLUB- 1st Tuesday, Army Reserve Center, 7:30 PM.
- DES MOINES- 1st Tuesday, Easter Seal Center, 2920 - 30th St., 7:30 PM.
- FOREST CITY- 2nd Tuesday, Manufacturer's Bank & Trust, 9:00 PM.
- PORT DODGE- 2nd Thursday, Airport Meeting Room, 7:30 PM.
- PORT MADISON- 3rd Tuesday, Savings & Loan Drive-In, 4520 Ave. L, 7:30 PM.
- GRINNELL- 2nd Monday, Senior Citizen Room, Community Center, 7:30 PM.
- ILLOWA COIN CLUB, CLINTON- 3rd Thursday, Gateway State Bank, Clinton.
- INDEPENDENCE- 3rd Saturday, Courthouse Basement.
- IOWA CITY-OLD CAPITOL COIN CLUB- 2nd Tues., West High School, Rm 13, 7:30
- IRIS CITY, MT. PLEASANT- 1st Thursday, Courtesy Room, Henry Co. Savings Bank, E. Washington St., 7:30 PM.
- KEOKUK- 4th Thurs., S.P.C.C. South Campus Student Lounge, 335 Messenger Rd.
- MOLINE, ILL.- 3rd Thursday, Township Hall, 7:30 PM.
- OSKALOOSA- 2nd Tuesday, Basement of the Farm Bureau Bldg., 7:30 PM.
- OTTUMWA- 4th Tuesday, Colormaster, Inc. 800 Gateway Drive, 7:30 PM.
- PORT CITY, MUSCATINE- 4th Tuesday, HOLIDAY INN, MUSCATINE HWY 61E 38 7:30PM
- RED OAK- 1st Monday, Farmers Mercantile on old HWY 34, 7:30 PM.
- SIOUXLAND- 2nd Thursday, Elks Lodge, 722 Douglas, Sioux City.
- STORMLAKE- 3rd Thursday, IPS meeting Room, Winter 7:30 Summer 8:00 PM.
- TRI-CITIES COIN CLUB, MOLINE, ILL.- 3rd Thurs., Moline Township Hall, 620 18th St., 7:30 PM.
- WADENA- 3rd Thursday, Historical Center, West Union, 8:00 PM.
- WATERLOO- 2nd THURSDAY Waterloo Arts & Recr. Center, 7:00 PM.

SHOW CALENDAR

- AUG. 13-18 American Numismatic Association 100th
Anniversary Convention & Show, Rosemont/O'Hare
Exposition Center, Chicago, Illinois.
- Sept. 8th Northeast Iowa Stamp, Coin, & Baseball Card
Bourse sponsored by Cedar Valley Stamp Club,
Five Sullivan Brothers Convention Center West
4th & Commercial Streets, Waterloo, Iowa.
Bourse: Doug Wetlaufer.
- Sept. 15th Grinnell Coin Club 1991 Coin, Stamp, & Sports
Card Show, Veterans Memorial Building,
Grinnell, Iowa. Bourse: Roger A. Wolver.
- Sept. 28-29 Fort Dodge Coin Club 1991 Coin, Stamp, &
Baseball Card Show, Crossroads Mall, East on
Hwy. 20, Fort Dodge, Iowa. Bourse: Harry Peters.
- Oct. 26-27 IOWA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION COIN CONVENTION &
AUCTION. Palace Theater, Adventureland Park,
Des Moines, Iowa. To Consign to Auction Call or
write Owen C McKee (515) 684-6006. Bourse
Chairman E.L. Victoria. (Check the back page
for addresses).

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK:

Dues notices are mailed. I'll get the cards out as soon as I'm able. As I am writing this, I'm preparing to enter the Hospital in Rochester for heart valve repair on Monday.

Information for "The Collector" is due four times a year: Feb. 15th, May 15th, Aug. 15th, and Nov. 15th so our publication can come out in time.

How about you sharing your numismatic knowledge with others by way of a short article for "The Collector"?

The State Convention this Oct. will be at Adventureland Park. It promises to be very ample space for the bourse, seminars, and auctions if the Board decides to have them.

The regular yearly Coin Club Shows are about through until Fall. I hope each Club show was well attended and successful. Working together brings Club members closer together.

See you in October.

JoAnn Peters
Secretary-Treasurer I.N.A

George W. Kuba, 78, of 3218 Mansfield Ave. SE, died Monday in Mercy Medical Center after a sudden illness. Memorial services: 1 p.m. Thursday, Cedar Memorial Chapel of Memories, where friends may register after noon Thursday. Inurnment: Cedar Memorial Park Cemetery.

Survivors include two brothers, Marvin of Cedar Rapids and Edward of Palos Park, Ill.

Also surviving are a nephew, Bill Kuba, Cedar Rapids; five nieces, Joyce Kuba of Cedar Rapids, Betty Zahn of Elmwood Park, Ill., Norienne Valdez of Flora Vista, N.M., Patricia Gerjets of Duluth, Minn., and Lana Kuba, Palos Park, Ill.; and many great nieces and nephews.

Born Feb. 22, 1912, in Cedar Rapids, he married Ruth Breuer here on Feb 3, 1934. She died in 1985. He was former owner and operator of Kuba Distributing Co. for 55 years, retiring in 1982. He was a member of Iowa Wholesale Beer Association, Cedar Rapids Beer Distributors Association, The Recycling Association, USBA, Cratos Association, Friends of Czech Museum and the 1 Club.

The Rev. Robert Dennert, Meth-Wick Manor chaplain, will officiate. A memorial fund has been established.



11/26/90

PRESS RELEASE

The Iowa Token Collectors Breakfast Club held their Spring meeting on May 11, 1991 at the Best Western Inn in Coralville, Iowa. Thirteen collectors and two token dealers were present. Speakers included Dan Anderson, of Iowa City, Iowa, who talked about the future changes he will be making in the Iowa token catalog, and Tom Gardner, of Keokuk, Iowa, who explained his ongoing 19th Century Iowa exonumia cataloging project.

Highlights of the show and tell period included an Ingle System token dispensing machine brought in by George Wolters of Rock Island, Illinois; a cadaver toe tag dated 1891 shown by Dave Morice of Coralville, Iowa; and an almost complete collection of Iowa transportation tokens displayed by Milton Heitman of Marengo, Iowa.

The Iowa Token Collectors Breakfast Club is an informal organization which holds meetings three times a year. Anyone with an interest in Iowa exonumia is invited to attend. The next meeting will be held in November 1991. Further details about the club and future meetings can be obtained by writing: Iowa Token Collectors Breakfast Club, C/O Steve Schooley, P.O. Box 5302, Coralville, Iowa 52241.



LAWRENCE BROTHERS by Gary E. Lewis

Many of us had mentors when we first started to collect coins. Typically, it was your parents or close relative that helped you get started in the interesting hobby of coin collecting.

One couple that I will never forget are the Lawrence Brothers of Anamosa, Iowa. When I first started collecting in the mid 50's the Lawrence Brothers both were still bachelors living in a big two story brick house about three blocks from downtown Anamosa.

At that time, they ran a small monthly newspaper called the COIN COLLECTOR out of there house. As I recall, the year subscription rate was \$2 per year or \$10 for a life time membership. I don't recall if this was my lifetime, since I was in my teens, or their's since they were in their sixties, but I bought a life time subscription. It was a 16-24 page paper, issued the 20th of each month, that quite often had articles laid out in a primitive manner on each page.

I recall one trip to their house, which was about thirty miles from my home town. I was escorted to their "office", and set on the chair, which was a single bed. They had all the addresses of the newspaper, on address-o-graph plates, spread all over the room. They would be more than happy to pull coins out of their china cabinet or from under their mattress and show them to you. I once recall seeing a Gold Certificate on sort of a "Hush basis", since at that time you were not suppose to own them. I also recall seeing some commemorative gold coins and many loose coins in boxes.

As best I recall, one of the brothers got married in the early sixties when I was in college. I also recall years later that someone bought the COIN COLLECTOR publication and published it for a limited time.

FROM THE PRESIDENT & EDITOR:

It was a snowy day last winter and I had just put my snow blower through some heavy abuse. The wet, sticky stuff just kept coming down but after a while I had cleaned off the walks at my house and the shop. I guess that is the cost of living in Iowa. But, I do love this great state.

The shop's business was light, as it often is on such days but soon the phone began to ring. It was my good friend Herb Rumbaugh's wife and as usual I had some difficulty understanding her. After a while I finally realized that Herb had went to the great convention in the sky, and he had been doing the same thing as so many others of us that day, pushing snow!

It strikes home with a real blow to the the stomach, a gut wrencher, you might call it. Herb had called me a few weeks before and had asked me to go with him to the Token Show in Omaha, now the guilt pangs set in, as I told him, I had hundreds of things to do here at the shop and could not possibly get away.

I am reminiscencing here, months later, his house has been sold, his coins gone, even his annual Christmas letter read to the coin club for the last time. Yet, I still miss him. His witt, his humor, and yes, even his sarcasm I greatly admired.

I never ever totally agreed with Herb, he knew my hunting to be as bad as I knew his smoking was. But, we were both a vanishing breed. He actually collected things, enjoyed history, loved research, and loved even more... telling people of the things he learned in his studies. Rarity is a complex factor and doesn't always symbolize great value. Quick to discuss the value of a Pella token, even quicker to pry it out of your fingers.

The openness that we shared didn't always lead us to better understanding. Do you know what I mean? For example, I told Herb of this great place to find Historical trade items in situ and the next thing I know he has his metal detector and wife combing every inch of the area. The understanding was there, I just couldn't understand how after each rain storm he would beat me to the sight.

Many hours were spent visiting with Herb at his house and there were many days that I was bailed out from Sunday get togethers by Herb's standing invitation to come over sometime, an offer I seldom refused.

Herb, I will miss you and the Southern Iowa Coin Club will miss your witt and humor.

Owen C. McKee

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SILVER PACK SADDLE SYCEE

by Owen C. McKee

Silver ingots have been what one might call a semi-official currency in China from the days of Emperor Shih Tsu (The Great Khan, Kublai) 1280 AD.

In 1856 the Chinese government recognized silver sycee as official currency. This order was not rescinded until 1933. During this period the sycee was the principal form of payment in wholesale business and in customs duties. Sycee was used extensively in bank clearings, payment of taxes, and in salaries for government and local authorities. In November, 1935, the tael was replaced by the uniform standard dollar in silver and later by a gold exchange standard which lasted through WW II.

Silver Pack Saddle Sycee are normally found in denominations of four and five tael ingots, but so-called "Shoes" of up to 50 taels are not rare. The purity of the silver was normally 0.985 fineness

Banks and large commercial houses had their own furnaces on their premises, with an assayer on the payroll. In almost all instances the Emperor's nien-hao, the name of the province where cast, the cities in which the purity of silver would be acknowledged, and sometimes even the assayer's name would be stamped on the ingots.

Civil disorder, revolutions, and the general chaotic condition of the economy convinced many wealthy Chinese to convert their investments into silver sycee. Thousands of these were hidden and tucked away and will continue to add interest to the collecting hobby in years to come.

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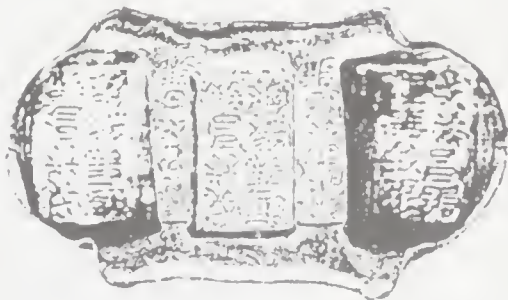
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